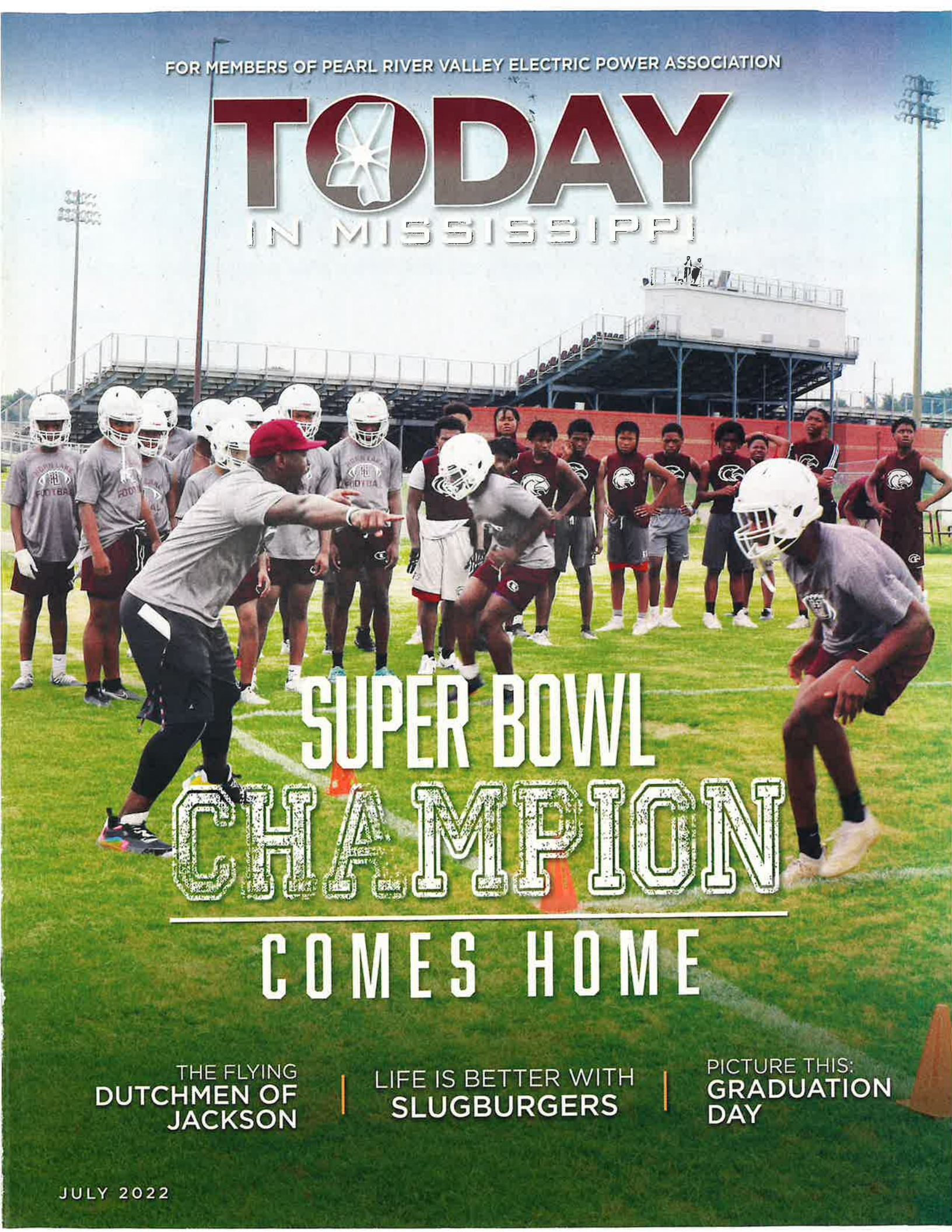
FOR MEMBERS OF PEARL RIVER VALLEY ELECTRIC POWER ASSOCIATION

TODAY IN MISSISSIPPI



SUPER BOWL CHAMPION COMES HOME

THE FLYING DUTCHMEN OF JACKSON

LIFE IS BETTER WITH SLUGBURGERS

PICTURE THIS: GRADUATION DAY

JULY 2022

On and off the field

We know it's July in Mississippi because of the oppressive heat outside. It felt just as hot in June. I'm not sure there's much of a difference in those two months during the dog days of summer.

I was thinking about the heat of summer when reading our July cover story about new Horn Lake High School Head Football Coach Brandon Jackson.

I was thinking about those kids running conditioning drills in the heat while Coach Jackson pushed them to keep on moving.

I remember practicing in the summer. I played football at The University of Southern Mississippi. I know what's it like to be yelled at on the field under a Mississippi baking sun.

I was heartened to read why Coach Jackson wanted to go back to his high school to lead the football team.

He said he wanted to lead young men on the field and off.

He made memories at Horn Lake High School and learned that hard work, discipline, and dedication can lead to great things.

Following his stellar career at Horn Lake, Coach Jackson went to college at the University of Nebraska and then was drafted by the Green Bay Packers to play in the NFL.

That, in and of itself, is something many of us only dreamed about. Only a select few are fortunate enough to play among the professional ranks.

Coach Jackson reached the pinnacle of pro football success when he and the Packers won the Super Bowl in 2011.

Now, Coach Jackson wants to give back to his school and community.

The overwhelming majority of the high school football players that Coach Jackson will lead will not play in the NFL.

But the lessons and habits he will teach his players will carry over into their lives wherever they wind up. His players will be better men, better fathers, and better husbands later in their lives if they listen and practice what he preaches.

In the end, that's what makes a high school football coach truly successful.

We hope you enjoy the story and this month's issue.

Also, we want to wish all our electric cooperative members a Happy Independence Day this month.

Never forget the sacrifices our forefathers made for us, creating the greatest country in the world.

by Michael Callahan

Executive Vice President/CEO
Electric Cooperatives
of Mississippi

Mississippi is...

Mom's apple pie and once a week
going to the nearest town,

Picking cotton all day long and
watching the sun as it goes down.

Drinking Coca-Cola from a glass
bottle and going to a cotton gin,

Hitchhiking to the nearest store
and listening to tales by men.

It's thumping watermelons and
pinecones falling from pine trees,

Watching TV in black and white
while listening to the late breeze.

Learning to drive a standard
transmission in a 57-pickup truck,

Catching a string of huge bream if
you happened to have good luck.

It's trips to the outhouse and
attending the nearest school,

It's love for all people and
learning the golden rule.

by Ty Anthony,
a resident of Union, and a
member of Central Electric

What's Mississippi to you?

What do you treasure most about life in our state? Send your brief thoughts to *Today in Mississippi*, news@ecm.coop or mail to P.O. Box 3300, Ridgeland, MS 39158

Garden badges boast of gardening, conservation

Gardens can be recognized as part of the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail, an effort that helps increase the habitat of the Monarch butterfly.

Several years ago, many businesses and organizations began offering digital badges to replace the traditional certificates that signify the successful completion of some specialized, non-accredited course or workshop. These badges are icons or symbols that offer instant recognition of the expertise of the individual.

If you're a fan of social media like I am, then you certainly know about group badge icons. These designations easily identify roles and interests of group members, such as admin/moderator, new member, conversation starter, or expert.

But you may not know that there are badges your garden and landscape can earn, and that you can share so your friends and neighbors will know about your expertise.

These are more like certificates, but like the digital badge, they offer instant recognition to neighbors and others passing by your garden and landscape.

The first garden badge my garden earned was Certified Wildlife Habitat from the National Wildlife Federation.

My garden and landscape provide sources of food, water, and cover, as well as areas to raise babies. I also engage in sustainable gardening practices. Providing these resources for local wildlife is important, as natural habitats are being lost to rapid urban development. A big, 150-plus home development is currently under construction just down the street from my home garden.

For more information on becoming a Certified Wildlife Habitat, visit **nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife/Certify**.

My garden's second badge involved becoming a member of the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail.

The idea for this trail was inspired by former First Lady Rosalynn Carter to help increase the habitat of the Monarch butterfly. This trail program started in Plains, Georgia, and has registered gardens all over the United States. I was privileged to have been an invited speaker at the 2022 Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Symposium.

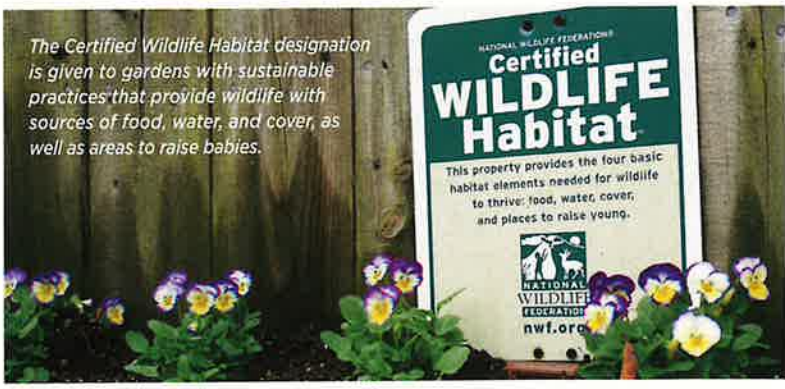
For more information on the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail, visit **rosalynncarterbutterflytrail.org/join-the-rosalynn-carter-butterfly-trail.**

I've recently become a member of Monarch Watch, and I'm waiting for my newest garden badge, the Monarch Waystation plaque.

My garden and landscape were certified as a Monarch Waystation for providing the resources necessary for the Monarch butterflies to produce successive generations and thus sustain their incredible migration across North America. This involves planting forage for the caterpillars and nectar plants to feed the butterflies. I've started seeds to grow seven Mississippi native milkweeds, and of course I have lots of nectar-rich flowers.

For more information on becoming a Monarch Waystation, visit **monarchwatch.org/waystations.**

Meeting the requirements to earn these badges is not difficult. You simply confirm that you are or will practice good gardening or conservation practices. Generally, these certifications charge a nominal fee for the badge that you can proudly display.



The Certified Wildlife Habitat designation is given to gardens with sustainable practices that provide wildlife with sources of food, water, and cover, as well as areas to raise babies.

by Dr. Gary Bachman

Gary Bachman, Ph.D., Extension/Research Professor of Horticulture at the Mississippi State University Coastal Research and Extension Center in Biloxi. He is also host of "Southern Gardening" radio and TV programs. He lives in Ocean Springs and is a Singing River Electric member.

THE REEL *and the popping bug*

The reel was growing old.

And so was its current owner.

Its original owner had long passed from the ranks of fly-fishing dukes. This story came to me without request, and since such bonuses are often rife with intrigue, I listened carefully. I shall tell the tale as I heard it.

It was my grandpa's reel. Not the first among automatics I'm sure, but still old. Daddy said his daddy, my grandpa, got it maybe in the early 1950s. Grandpa was so enamored of it that he could hardly talk of anything else. He was a hard-scrabble farmer, wore overalls, and plowed two mules. Pleasures were scarce and extravagances maligned in his day. Still, my grandpa bought this reel. "The fishin'est thing you ever saw," I remember him saying. Daddy also remembered such hyperbole. Grandpa was proud of the automatic reel.

I recognized several years before my grandpa passed that such a contrivance would not be the premier selection for fishing dry flies or nymphs along the Madison, Yellowstone, or Watauga. Not first choice when seeking big browns in valley streams of New Zealand. It was not that the automatic was ineffective; it was simply that the artsy-smartsy manuals were overflowing with class. Lefty Kreh and Ernest Hemingway used them. Grandpa didn't know Lefty Kreh and Ernest Hemigway. He never saw the Madison, Yellowstone, or Watauga. He likely didn't know that New Zealand even existed.

Grandpa's world was small, his streams basic, and often turbid. He walked from home when he went fishing. A creek for the most part, across a dirt road, and pasture east a half mile. He fished for whatever took his offering. That offering was always a simple popping bug. He disliked dry flies and nymphs. He walked the banks and executed roll-casts or slingshots to place that bug under dangling limbs or along steep bends. Lefty's graceful and signature back-cast was not an option. Grandpa caught fish. Bream primarily; he liked them best. "Ole trout tore up my best popping bug on the creek," he would sometimes opine. Of course, it was a bass. There are no trout in Mississippi creeks. But we knew what he meant.

This old automatic still works. I tried it in the backyard a few weeks back. Guess I should take it to a creek or pond and catch some sun perch with a popping bug. Grandpa would be proud. He was a simple and solid man, you know.

The storyteller's tale complete, he nodded and walked away. I smiled. I had enjoyed his discourse. It prompted me to contemplation. I concluded old reels — automatic or manual — creek banks; pleasant memories; and simple, solid old or young men are entities of great value.

by Tony Kinton

Tony Kinton has been an active outdoors writer for 30 years. He lives in Carthage and is a Central Electric member. Visit www.tonykinton.com for more information.

RGERS:

The festival will include a carnival, a car show, food vendors, the Miss Slugburger pageant, and the World Championship Slugburger Eating Contest.

This year the festival is featuring local craft vendors — artisans and crafters from within a 100-mile radius, Steen said.

According to the Visit Corinth website, the festival has grown so popular that Trip Advisor named it one of America's "Wackiest Summer Events." Slug Idol, one of the most popular festival events, sees locals compete to determine the area's best singer.

Steen said the Slugburger Festival is always a good time "to come home."

"For all our transplants and wayward Corinth natives, this July weekend stands out as a tradition to come home for, whether it's to see old friends, listen to local talent, or just get your slugburger fix."

Where to Find Slugburgers

Thanks to their long history and enduring popularity, you'll find slugburgers at plenty of Corinth eateries. As you plan your Corinth food itinerary, be sure to check out a few of these destinations:

- **Borroum's Drug Store:** Mississippi's oldest operating drug store helps bring you back to the days slugburgers were first served with a throwback style.
- **Slug Burger Café:** As the name implies, this restaurant is known for its slugburgers. They also serve breakfast, sandwiches, fries, and homemade desserts.
- **White Trolley Café:** Grab a stool at this retro café's counter to enjoy a delectable slugburger and other treats.

For more information about the Slugburger Festival or Corinth, visit www. corinth.net/slugburger/ or call 662-287-8300.

TECHNOLOGY SIMPLIFIED – BIGGER AND BETTER

Wow! A Simple to Use Computer Designed Especially for Seniors!

Easy to read. Easy to see. Easy to use. Just plug it in!

NEW

Now comes with...

Enhanced Video Chat

Faster Email

Larger 22-inch hi-resolution screen – easier to see
16% more viewing area

Simple navigation – so you never get lost

Intel® processor – lightning fast

Computer is in the monitor – No bulky tower

Text to Speech translation – it can even read your emails to you!

U.S. Based Customer Service

FREE
Automatic Software Updates

"I love this computer! It is easy to read and to use! I get photo updates from my children and grandchildren all the time."
– Janet F.

Have you ever said to yourself "I'd love to get a computer, if only I could figure out how to use it." Well, you're not alone. Computers were supposed to make our lives simpler, but they've gotten so complicated that they are not worth the trouble. With all of the "pointing and clicking" and "dragging and dropping" you're lucky if you can figure out where you are. Plus, you are constantly worrying about viruses and freeze-ups. If this sounds familiar, we have great news for you. There is finally a computer that's designed for simplicity and ease of use. It's the WOW Computer, and it was designed with you in mind. This computer is easy-to-use, worry-free and literally puts the world at your fingertips. From the moment you open the box, you'll realize how different the WOW Computer is. The components are all connected; all you do is plug it into an outlet and your high-speed Internet connection. Then you'll see the screen – it's now 22 inches. This is a completely new touch screen system, without the cluttered look of the normal computer screen. The "buttons" on the screen are easy to see and easy to understand. All you do is touch one of them, from the Web, Email, Calendar to Games– you name it... and a new screen opens up. It's so easy to use you won't have to ask your children or grandchildren for help. Until now, the very people who could benefit most from E-mail and the Internet are the ones that have had the hardest time accessing it. Now, thanks to the WOW Computer, countless older Americans are discovering the wonderful world of the Internet every day. Isn't it time you took part? Call now, and you'll find out why tens of thousands of satisfied seniors are now enjoying their WOW Computers, emailing their grandchildren, and experiencing everything the Internet has to offer. Call today!

- Send & Receive Emails
- Have video chats with family and friends
- Surf the Internet:
  Get current weather and news
- Play games Online:
  Hundreds to choose from!

Call now toll free and find out how you can get the new WOW! Computer.

Mention promotional code 117315 for special introductory pricing.

1-888-331-0616

The WOW! Computer

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS Rating of A+

© 2022 Journey Health and Lifestyle

84115

12. Jacob McMillan and Alexandria Howard, by **Jeannie Ross Howard** of Louisville; East Mississippi EPA member.
13. Amber Terry, by **Linda Terry** of Olive Branch; Northcentral Electric member.
14. Carrigan Prine, by **Trish Little** of Magee; Southern Pine Electric member.
15. Ryan Renfroe, by **Terri Corley** of Pearl; Southern Pine Electric member.
16. Drewnae Aliese Pickens, by **Danielle Pickens** of Gautier; Singing River Electric member.
17. Wesley Jacobs (left) and Tommy Jacobs by **Elizabeth Jacobs** of Brandon; Central EPA member.
18. Charlisia Richardson, by **Calvin Richardson** of Port Gibson; Southwest Electric member.
19. Hunter Snellgrove, by **Angelia Snellgrove** of Mendenhall; Southern Pine Electric member.
20. Colby Braidon Bronson Johnson, by **Destiny Hart** of Columbia; Pearl River Valley Electric member.
21. Briana Grace Reed, by **Annie Banks** of Fayette; Southwest Electric member.
22. Madyson Canulette, by **Paula Warnke** of Picayune; Coast Electric member.

A FUTURE POWERED BY FIBER

The gold standard of transmission

Pearl River Valley EPA and its fiber broadband partner, PearlComm Fiber, have been hard at work to begin building the network that will deliver world-class, high-speed internet access and HD-quality phone service options to 100% of our members.

Building a fiber network takes several years. Some have asked if fiber technology is going to be obsolete by then.

The short answer is no. Fiber technology is here to stay and will continue to power the internet revolution for years into the future. Fiber internet is super-fast and more reliable than traditional copper phone lines, cable or fixed wireless technology.

What Makes Fiber Internet Better:

- Faster, symmetrical speeds for both uploading and downloading.
- Better, more consistent performance than DSL, cable or fixed wireless.
- Greater bandwidth than other technologies and no data caps.

PearlComm Fiber
Powered by Pearl River Valley Electric

Follow "PearlComm Fiber" on Facebook for the latest zone opening updates. Visit **www.pearlcommfiber.net** for more information and to pre-register.

FIBER INTERNET

- Delivers service via fiber along electric infrastructure
- Made of tiny strands of glass that use light waves to transmit data
- Sends and receives extremely high amounts of data at the speed of light

COPPER-BASED DSL

- Delivers service via phone lines
- Distance-sensitive: signal strength and speed decrease further from central office
- Service frequently slow and unreliable in rural areas

CABLE NETWORK

- Delivers services over copper coaxial cables to reach ISP network
- Shared connections mean network congestion and slowdowns, especially for uploading

FIXED WIRELESS

- Delivers service by airwaves, from main access point to receiver
- Requires line-of-sight connection with access point, typically within 10 miles
- Limited availability in rural areas

KNOW THE SIGNS of a SCAM

It's no secret that consumers with a water, gas, or electricity connection have long been targets for utility scams, but fraudsters have changed their tactics since the COVID-19 pandemic. As consumers became more reliant on technology for work, school, and commerce, scammers noted these shifts and adapted their tactics to this changed environment.

Imposter scams are the number one type of fraud reported to the Federal Trade Commission. While scam artists may come to your door posing as a utility worker who works for the "power company," in today's more connected world, attempts are more likely to come through an electronic device, via email, phone, or text.

Common Types of Scams

A scammer may claim you are overdue on your electric bill and threaten to disconnect your service if you don't pay immediately. Whether this is done in-person, by phone, text, or email, the scammers want to scare you into immediate payment, so you don't have time to think clearly.

If this happens over the phone, simply hang up. If you're concerned about your bill, call us at 601-736-2666. Our phone number can also be found on your monthly bill and on our website, emepa.com. If the scam is by email or text, delete it before taking any action. If you're unsure, you can always contact us at 601-736-2666, or use the PRVEPA app to check the status of your account. Remember, Pearl River Valley Electric will never attempt to demand immediate payment after just one notice.

Some scammers may falsely claim you have been overcharged on your bill and say they want to give a refund. It sounds easy. All you have to do is click or press a button to initiate the process. If you proceed, you will be prompted to provide banking or other personal information. Instead of money going into your bank account, the scammers can drain your account and use personal information such as a social security number for identity theft.

If this "refund" scam happens over the phone, just hang up and block the phone number to prevent future robocalls. If this scam attempt occurs via email (known as a "phishing" attempt) or by text ("smishing"), do not click any links. Instead, delete it, and if possible, block the sender. If you do overpay on your energy bill, Pearl River Valley Electric will automatically apply the credit to your next billing cycle. When in doubt, contact us.

Defend Yourself Against Scams

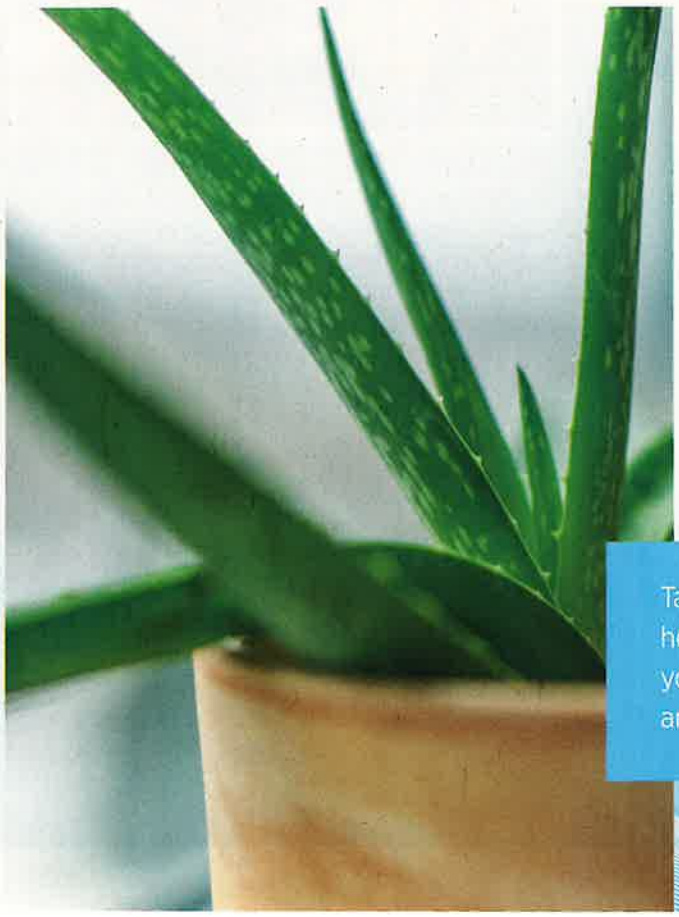
Be wary of call or texts from unknown numbers. Be suspicious of an unknown person claiming to be a utility worker who requests banking or other personal information.

Never let anyone into your home that you don't know unless you have a scheduled appointment or reported a problem. Pearl River Valley Electric employees wear uniforms and carry ID badges. When we perform work on our members' property or come into your home, our employees are professionals and will always identify themselves.

We want to help protect our community against utility scams, and you can help create the first line of defense. Please report any potential scams to us, so we can spread the word to prevent others in the community from falling victim.

Use vents to remove cooking fumes. Those exhaust fans aren't just for when you burn the bacon. Fans help remove fumes emitted while cooking and eliminate unwanted moisture and odors. They may be a bit noisy, but these handy tools can help you improve indoor air quality while you're preparing that culinary masterpiece (or even a grilled cheese sandwich!).

Get a handle on humidity. Summer months typically bring more humidity than we'd like, especially if you live in a high-humidity climate zone. Moisture in the air can carry bacteria and other unwanted particles that you eventually breathe in. Dehumidifiers work to remove that moisture from the air, reducing the amount of bacteria, mold and other allergens in your home.



Incorporate air-purifying plants into your living space. There are several varieties of indoor plants that can help detoxify your home from dust and germs found in a variety of home products, furniture, and other materials. A few low-maintenance, air-purifying plants to consider are snake plants, aloe vera plants, and pothos plants (also known as Devil's Ivy). These vibrant, lush plants are eye-catching and beneficial for any home. Remember to review care conditions, and think about placement for any new plants you add to your home.

Taking simple steps to purify indoor air can improve health and overall quality of life. With a little effort, you can improve the indoor air quality of your home and breathe a bit easier.

HORN LAKE HERO

Jackson's Horn Lake High School retired football jersey is encased in a frame that hangs on a school wall.

Jackson, 36, grew up in Chicago, but later moved to Mississippi with his family and landed in Horn Lake.

"Growing up in Chicago and coming to Horn Lake was a cultural adjustment for myself and my family. Playing football at Horn Lake High School was one of the greatest experiences because it gave me the opportunity to play on the next level, college football," Jackson said.

Mentorship plays a key role in a young man's life, Jackson said. He knows firsthand from his experiences in Horn Lake.

"Coach Craig Casey (one of Jackson's former high school football coaches) was a great mentor. He inspired me throughout middle school and during my high school years. He taught me about never giving up and how to overcome onerous situations. Outside of high school, my biggest inspiration is my brother Ben Jackson. He never missed any of my accomplishments throughout my life with football. He's my greatest support and always the counselor I needed," Jackson said.

When asked why he wanted to be Horn Lake High School's head football coach, Jackson said he wanted to "change young men's lives."

"Growing up in Horn Lake, I always wondered what if? What if I had a Super Bowl champion for a coach, how much more would I have accomplished," he said.

> **"It is an honor and privilege to be the first African American head coach at Horn Lake High School, and the second in the history of Desoto County.**

Jackson has made history as the school's first black head football coach, something the married father of three takes very seriously.

"It is an honor and privilege to be the first African American head coach at Horn Lake High School, and the second in the history of Desoto County. Growing up, my father was the first African American to play the sport of basketball at Arkansas College. He left me a part of his legacy and history," Jackson said.

"As a community I believe young, rising African American men need to see a familiar image to help them become successful. This is the experience of a lifetime, and I'm here to serve my community proudly."

Horn Lake High School Principal Nick Toungett, who is white, said representation matters, but he didn't hire Jackson because he was black.

"I believe it is important to have a staff population that represents the student population that they serve. When screening candidates, I did not have a goal to hire the school's first black head football coach. My goal was to fill the position with the candidate that had the best chance to grow our young men on and off the field and win at everything," Toungett said.

"I felt like Brandon Jackson was that guy. However, I am extremely excited that the guy we chose is from Horn Lake, is a Super Bowl champion, and is the first black head football coach at Horn Lake."

Photos by Chad Calcote

THE RIGHT GUY

Toungett said he loves Jackson's enthusiasm and passion for the community.

"He has brought a tremendous amount of energy and excitement to our program. The main three things about his personality that grabbed my attention was his energy, his passion, and his humbleness. Coach Jackson has accomplished great things as a player and a coach yet remains humble and grounded. You don't always find this when dealing with people that have accomplished as much as he has," Toungett said.

The principal said the most important trait he was looking for in a coach was someone who could lead the students on and off the field.

"Someone who will inspire them to be the best that they can be at everything they do, while holding them accountable along the way," Toungett said.

'TAKING THEM BACK TO MY GRIND'

Back out on the practice field, Jackson and his assistant coaches kept asking the students if they "want it?"

"If not, just go home," Jackson yelled.

There were other phrases Jackson shouted out to his students as the drills continued.

"Get up! You want it? Take it! Fight!"

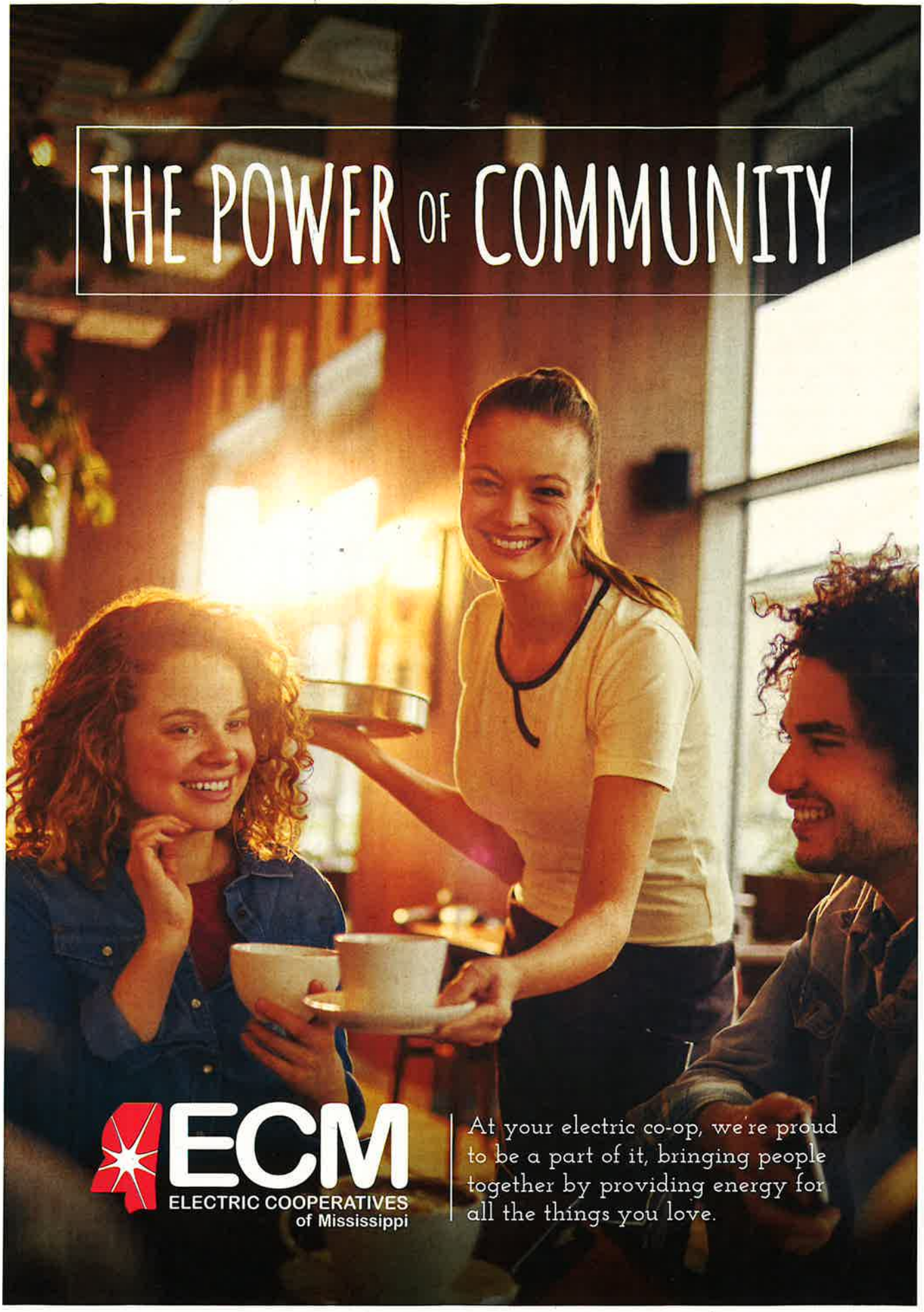
"Keep up or get passed up!"

"My goal for these kids is to take them back to my grind. This is what I did. I want to show them how to make it," Jackson said during a break.

"This team is going to be the fastest and most disciplined team in Mississippi. Even our managers are going to be fast," Jackson said smiling.

Later, after practice, Jackson put it a different way.

"Understanding where I have been in life and where these young men want to go is part of the journey. I want our young men to be student athletes first. That means the classroom will always come first and football second. Having success off the field is of the upmost importance."


THE POWER OF COMMUNITY
ECM
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES
of Mississippi
At your electric co-op, we're proud to be a part of it, bringing people together by providing energy for all the things you love.

Rowan Oak
RECOGNIZED BY
Mississippi Heritage Trust

The Mississippi Heritage Trust has honored the UM Museum with a Heritage Award for its work to oversee and preserve Rowan Oak, home of author William Faulkner. Photo by Robert Jordan/Ole Miss Digital Imaging Services

by Edwin B. Smith

For more than two decades, the University of Mississippi Museum has been the steward of Rowan Oak, Pulitzer Prize-winning author William Faulkner's home and grounds, with the support of university leadership and the Facilities Management Department.

The museum's efforts were publicly recognized recently with an award from one of the state's premier historic preservation organizations.

The Heritage Award recognized the museum's stewardship and oversight of Rowan Oak since the late 1990s. The honor, which includes a plaque, came during the statewide annual historic preservation conference of the Mississippi Heritage Trust.

"Constructed circa 1840, Rowan Oak has an important story to tell about Mississippi and one of our most famous writers, William Faulkner," Lolly Rash, MHT executive director, said in a news release. "The Mississippi Heritage Trust is pleased to recognize the University Museum for its stewardship of this treasured historic place with a 2022 Heritage Award."

The award is a tribute to more than two decades of daily direction by Rowan Oak's curator, William Griffith, said Robert Saarnio, director of University Museum and Historic Houses.

Robert Saarnio (right) director of the UM Museum, accepts the 2022 Heritage Award from Kasey Adams, Mississippi Heritage Trust president, during the MHT annual conference.

"Bill is the reason this award is occurring, by dint of his leadership, vision and professionalism over so many years of dedicated service," Saarnio said. "I have observed often that Bill Griffith is among a very small number of top-tier and most accomplished historic house museum curators in the nation.

"I am proud and honored to be his colleague."

Griffith said it has been a pleasure to serve as curator.

"I'm honored and humbled that Mississippi Heritage Trust has chosen to give Rowan Oak its preservation award," Griffi th said. "We've done a lot, but we still have a lot to do. This award will ertainly go a long way in encouraging our efforts."

Organized in 1992, the Mississippi Heritage Trust was formed by a group of preservationists who envisioned an organization that would work with local preservation groups and support their efforts to save Mississippi's rich architectural legacy. Over its 30-year existence, MHT has created programs such as the 10 Most Endangered Historic Places in Mississippi, the Mississippi Historic Preservation Conference and Heritage Awards.

Limeade Crescents

The zippy flavor of lime sings summer. These buttery cookies are glazed with a tart lime icing then dusted with powdered sugar.

INGREDIENTS

1 ¾ cups all-purpose flour
½ cup powdered sugar
¼ cup corn starch
1 cup salted butter, softened to room temperature
1 tablespoon lime zest
1 tablespoon fresh lime juice

FOR THE GLAZE

1 ¼ cups sifted powdered sugar plus additional powdered sugar for dusting
1 teaspoon lime zest
2 to 3 tablespoons lime juice

Sift flour, powdered sugar, and cornstarch together and set aside.

Using an electric mixer beat the butter until creamy. Add the zest and the juice. Add the flour mixture and beat at medium-low speed until a smooth dough forms.

Divide the dough in half and on a lightly floured surface shape each piece into a 10-inch log. Wrap up the logs and chill for 2 hours.

Heat oven to 350 degrees.

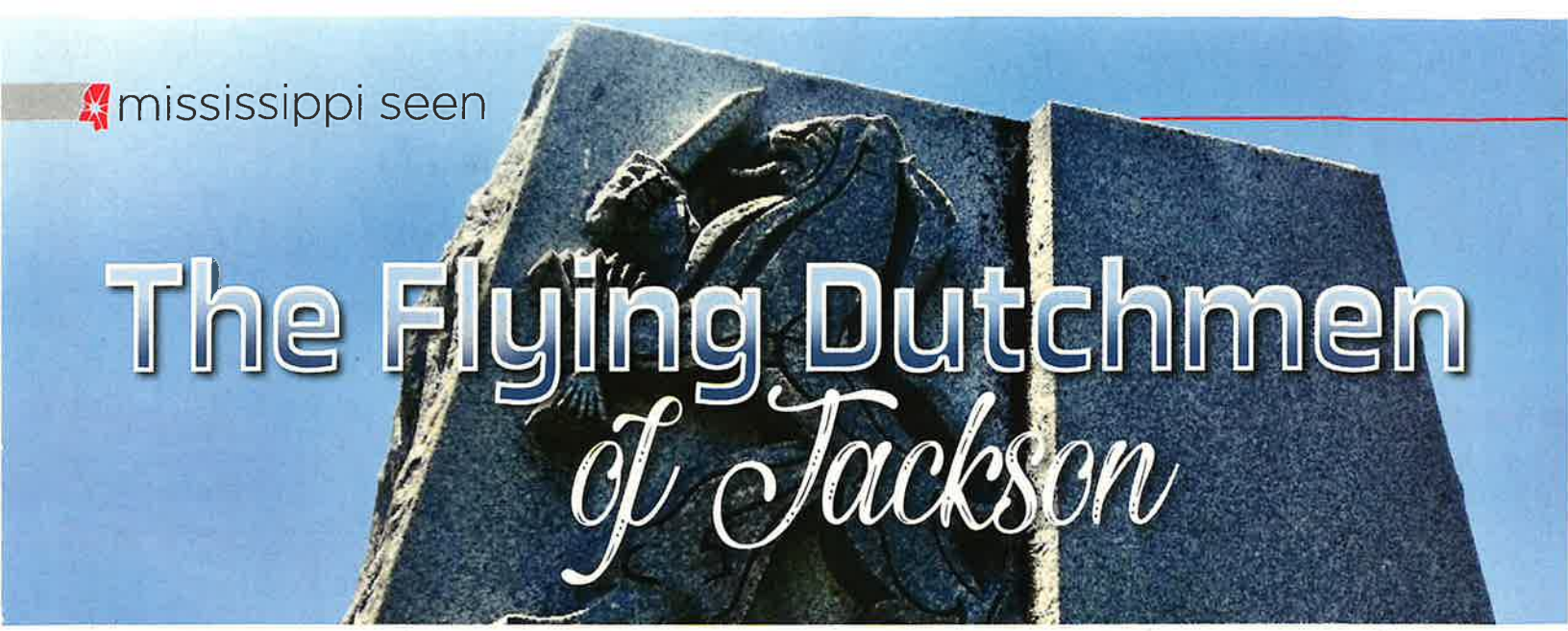
Slice the dough into ½-inch pieces and form into crescent shapes. Place cookies 1-inch apart on a parchment-lined baking sheet. Bake for 10 minutes or until the edges are golden.

Cool cookies on a wire rack.

Mix the glaze ingredients together. When the cookies are completely cooled dip the tops into the glaze and place on a rack set over parchment paper. Let cookie glaze harden completely then dust with additional powdered sugar, if desired.

by Martha Hall Foose

Martha Hall Foose, the author of "Screen Doors & Sweet Tea: Recipes and Tales of a Southern Cook," won the James Beard Award for American Cooking. Her latest collaboration is "A Good Meal is Hard to Find: Stories Recipes from the Deep South" with Amy C. Evans. Martha makes her home in the Mississippi Delta with her husband and son. She is a member of Yazoo Valley Electric Power Association.



The Flying Dutchmen of Jackson

Back in 1995, I was with a small group of journalists who went to St. Petersburg in Russia to preview the palaces that would be showcased the following year in The Palaces of St. Petersburg Exhibition in Jackson.

We stopped briefly at Helsinki, Finland for the plane to be serviced before the last leg of the journey. Some of us got the bright idea that we needed to dash out of the airport so we could say we put our feet on Finnish soil. It was only after we had gone through customs and tapped our toes on the grass beside the sidewalk that we realized customs is just one way! You don't turn around and go back in the way you came out.

We did find the entrance and got back to the plane on time. Fortunately, we didn't have to have some special visa to get out of the country. We also didn't require any particular level of intelligence as either.

I thought about that adventure the other day when I stepped onto Dutch soil. And I didn't have to leave Jackson to do it. I just went to Cedar Lawn Cemetery on West Capitol Street and visited Section 41. That portion of the cemetery was ceded to the Netherlands by the City of Jackson as the final resting place for Dutch pilots who lost their lives while training in Mississippi during World War II. Since the section is owned by the Netherlands, the pilots literally are buried in Dutch soil.

The Flying Dutchmen of Jackson is a part of Mississippi history I didn't know about until after I had been living here for several years.

The Netherlands was overrun by Germany early in World War II as was the Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia) by Japan. So, the Netherlands military was without a country. The U.S. allowed Dutch pilots to train in America. Since they were using open cockpit aircraft, they requested bases in the south. Hawkins Field in Jackson became their headquarters.

Some of the pilots and trainers lost their lives in accidents. Not only here, but at other bases as well. They were all buried in Jackson. Later, other pilots, killed in combat, were returned to Jackson. By the end of the war there were 30 graves in Section 41 of Cedar Lawn.

Then, in the years after the war, some of the men who had trained here wanted to be buried with their companions when they died. Some of their family members are buried with them.

In years past there have been ceremonies at the Dutch flier graves around Memorial Day. Not so much lately. There were none this year. COVID-19 may have stopped them the past two years.

So now, while we display our patriotism on the 4th of July, let's remember the Flying Dutchmen of Jackson along with our service members. They trained here and fought for the Allies in World War II. They are buried in Dutch soil, right here in Mississippi.

> "While we display our patriotism on the 4th of July, let's remember the Flying Dutchmen of Jackson along with our service members.

by Walt Grayson

Walt Grayson is the host of "Mississippi Roads" on Mississippi Public Broadcasting television and the author of two "Looking Around Mississippi" books and "Oh! That Reminds Me: More Mississippi Homegrown Stories." Walt is also a reporter and 4 p.m. news anchor at WJTV in Jackson. He lives in Brandon and is a Central Electric member. Contact him at walt@waltgrayson.com.